PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1968

STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health:	John Bryce Stafford, L.R.C.P(Ed) L.R.C.P.(Ed) L.R.C.P.& S.(Glas) D.P.H.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:	E. T. Little, F.F.S., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I now have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the District, for the year 1968.

POPULATION:

The estimated population, according to the Registrar-General, for mid-year 1968, is 9.720 - an increase of 440 on last year's estimate of 9,280.

STATISTICS:

The live birth rate of 18.1 per 1,000 population is below that of 1967 and 1966, which were, respectively, 19.3 and 21.3. It is, however, higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, which is given as 16.9. This follows the usual trend, as our birth rate is usually higher than that of the country as a whole.

The infant mortality rate of 11.0 per 1,000 live births is very satisfactory, and compares with a rate for England and Wales as a whole, of 18.0. Last year, our rate was 22.3.

The stillbirth rate of 22.0 is higher than that of the country as a whole, which is 14.0.

The death rate of 9.5 per 1000 population is below that of 1967, when it was 10.1, and compares with a death rate for England and Wales of 11.9.

As many as 23 deaths were due to malignant disease, including nine deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus. It is said that men over 45, by smoking, have largely cancelled out for themselves the benefits of medical and pharmaceutical advances. Although there have been spectacular reductions in deaths due to tuberculosis and other infectious diseases (there were no such deaths in this area in 1968) these have been offset, in respect of men, by increases in lung cancer and heart disease, both of which are associated with smoking.

Six deaths were due to accidents, three of which were due to motor vehicle accidents.

CONCLUSION:

It is obvious from the foregoing statistics that the health of the district was satisfactory in 1968. The illegitimate live births percentage of total births is again high, i.e., 7.4% compared with 7.8% in 1967.

I would again like to express my thanks to the Clerk of the Council, the Public Health Inspector, and to the Chairman and members of the Council for their continued help and co-operation.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

JOHN BRYCE STAFFORD
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	28,207 acres
Population (estimated mid-1968)	9,720
Number of inhabited houses from rate book	3,232
Rateable value (April, 1969)	£255,955
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,085

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	77	86	163
Illegitimate	3	10	13
Total	80	96	176

		ENGLAND & WALES
Crude Live Birth Rate per 1000 home population	18.1	16.9
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate	1.19	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total births	7.4	

STILLBIRTHS:

	Males	Females	Total
	2	2	4

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births	22	14.0
Total Live and Stillbirths	180	

INFANT DEATHS (under one year)

Males	0
Females	2

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	11	18.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate: (Stillbirths and deaths under one week of age)	33	25.0

DEATHS:

Males	44
Females	48
Total	92

Crude rate per 1,000 home population	9.5	11.9
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate	0.97	

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 19 years	20 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 and over	Unknown	TOTAL
Measles	1	6	4	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Whooping Cough	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sonne Dysentery	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	5
Infectious Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3
Para-typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	7	6	3	3	1	1	2	3	-	1	-	1	30

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1968	Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	6	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1
Leukaemia	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.,	6	4
Other diseases of nervous system, etc	2	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	7
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	3	9
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	5
Pneumonia	3	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	-
Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	1	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2
All Other Accidents	1	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	44	48

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

Under the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council scheme the services of a District Nurse are available in all villages in the District.

Home Helps

Domestic Home Helps are available under the County Council Scheme. Applications should be made to:-

The Home Help Organiser,
County Health Department,
County Offices, Bridge Street,
Peterborough.

General Hospitals

Patients are admitted to the Peterborough District Hospital, administered by the Peterborough No. 12 Area Hospital Management Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Isolation Hospitals

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the management of the above hospital management committee.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(A) Provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council

Child Welfare Clinics

(a)	Village Hall, Castor	-	Second Tuesday afternoon in each month.
(b)	Leeds Hall, Eye.	-	First and Third Monday afternoons in each month.
(c)	Village College, Glinton	-	Second and Fourth Thursday afternoons in each month.
(d)	Village Hall, Newborough	-	Third Tuesday afternoon in each month.
(e)	School Hall, Helpston	-	Fourth Wednesday afternoon in each month.
(f)	Congregational Church Hall, Maxey	-	Second Wednesday afternoon in each month.

Measles and Diphtheria Immunisation

Provided by the General Practitioner service under the County Council.

(B) Provided by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis cases are seen at the Chest Clinic, Stamford Hospital, provided by the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Management Committee, or at the Chest Clinic, District Hospital, Peterborough.

Venereal Diseases - Clinics - District Hospital, Peterborough

Females Tuesday - 10.30 - 12.30
Children Thursday 4.30 - 6.30

Males Monday 4.30 - 6.30
Wednesday - 5.30 - 7

PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Surveyor's Office,
40, Park Road,
Peterborough.

July, 1969.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR for the year 1968.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Peterborough Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my 4th Annual Report in respect of the year 1968 as follows:-

NUISANCES.

41 nuisances were investigated as follows:-

Premises (disrepair)	11
Premises (insanitary conditions)	3
Drainage	6
Offensive accumulations	4
Keeping of animals	4
Overflowing and/or leaking cess-pools	7
Water courses	4
Noise	2

All nuisances were abated as a result of informal action. No statutory notices were served.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

No. of factories on register	30
No. of outworkers premises	4
No. of inspections	19

REFUSE COLLECTION

Collection of household refuse is carried out by a private contractor under the terms of a three year contract, with vehicles provided by the Council. The contract provides for 50 collections per year, and tipping is carried out by arrangement at the Peterborough Corporation tip in the City of Peterborough.

PETROLEUM ACTS 1928 etc.

46 current annual licences are now in force in respect of the bulk storage of petroleum mixtures at 46 premises, being two less than in the previous year.

17 inspections were carried out during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(a) Discretionary Grants

Applications in respect of Improvement and/or Conversion were received in respect of 7 premises, and grants were made in every case amounting in total to £1963. The applications numbered 1 less than in the previous year.

The premises were situated in the following parishes:-

Eye	1
Glinton	1
Marholm	2
Northborough	1
Peakirk	2

(b) Standard Grants

Applications were received in respect of 13 premises for the provision of the following amenities:-

Hot water supplies	13
Water Closets	13
Baths	13
Wash basins	13
Foodstores	5

The premises were situated in the following parishes:-

Ailsworth	1
Deeping Gate	5
Eye	1
Helpston	1
Marholm	1
Maxey	2
Northborough	1
Peakirk	1

The applications numbered 3 less than in the previous year.

CARAVAN SITES

6 sites are currently licenced under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, and all associated planning permissions are temporary.

One multiple site in the village of Eye closed down during the year.

There are two multiple sites operating in Eye. A statutory notice was served for non-compliance with Site Licence Conditions in respect of one of these sites, and work is now in progress to comply with the Notice requirements.

18 inspections were made during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Annual Report in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is presented as Appendix II.

Evidence of increased rodent activity was noted during the year, and the Council now offer free treatments so far as domestic properties are concerned. Existing staff resources do not permit the amount of routine inspection which I should like to see, and a continued appeal is made to occupiers of agricultural land for increased vigilance, to supplement our efforts in dealing with this menace to food supplies and health.

WATER SUPPLY

The Peterborough R.D.C.Water Undertaking was taken over by the South Lincolnshire Water Board on the 1st October,1968 and ceased to be the statutory water undertaking for the Rural District with effect from that date. The following statistics are therefore based on the nine month period 1-1-68 to 30-9-68.

Works.

No. of new domestic supplies	14
No. of new metered supplies	2
No. of services repaired or re-newed	38
No. of mains repaired	16

Water Consumption.

Bulk water consumption for the district was 115.2 million gallons, equivalent to 43.5 gallons per head per day for all purposes.

Water Samples.

Regular routine sampling for bacteriological examination was carried out, and 14 samples were submitted to the Laboratory. The results were satisfactory in every case.

The following is the chemical analysis of a representative sample of water as supplied to this Authority.

Chemical results in milligrams per litre (ppm)

Appearance - Clear and bright.

		Turbidity (A.P.H.A.units)	Less than 1
Colour (Hazen)	Nil	Odour	Nil
pH	7.5	Free Carbon Dioxide	16
Electric Conductivity Reciprocal Megohms per cm.	690	Dissolved Solids Dried at 180°C.	490
Chlorine present as Chloride	24	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	230
Hardness : Total 395	Carbonate 230	Non-carbonate	165
Nitrate Nitrogen	3.5	Nitrite Nitrogen	Less than 0.01
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00	Oxygen Absorbed	0.10
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00	Residual Chlorine	...

Metals : Iron, Zinc, Copper, Lead - Absent.

Fluoride (F) : 0.15

Sulphate (SO_4): 120.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from iron and other metals. The water is very hard in character but not excessively so, it contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

3 investigations were made during the year.

DISINFESTATION

2 private dwellings were treated for flea infestation.

OFFICES,SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

32 inspections were made. The Annual Report in the form required by the Department of Employment and Productivity is presented as Appendix III.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The main drainage systems provided in all but three of the parishes, were subjected to heavy surcharging on occasions due to circumstances beyond normal control, which are set out under SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE below. Portable pumping equipment was used to supplement existing plant and whilst on occasions some nuisance resulted, instances were kept to a minimum. I wish to record my special appreciation of the efforts made by the staff and workmen in dealing with the many emergencies as they arose.

The provision of a main drainage scheme in the Parish of Newborough continues to be an urgent necessity and negotiations associated with the provision of outfall facilities in the City of Peterborough whilst proceeding, leave little to report by way of practical progress.

7 existing properties have been connected to main sewers during the year in the following parishes:-

Castor	1
Deeping Gate	1
Marholm	1
Maxey	4

CESS-POOL EMPTYING

Cess-pools and septic tanks continue to be emptied by contract which provides for two free emptyings per year where the properties are more than 100 feet from a main sewer.

416 tanks were emptied during the year, an increase of 80 on the previous year.

NIGHT SOIL COLLECTION

This service is provided by contract in the Parish of Newborough for some 70 properties.

SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE

The Table of Rainfall Statistics (Appendix IV) shows the annual rainfall in 1968 (31.15 ins) to be higher than that for any of the previous 12 years included in the table, and in the month of July the rainfall will be seen to more than double the amount recorded in any previous July.

Serious wide-spread flooding occurred throughout the district and not least of the problems which arose resulted from overloading of foul sewers and sewage pumping stations. In many cases this was due to the lifting of inspection chamber covers on private property to facilitate the disposal of accumulated storm water.

It should also be made clear that with the exception of certain post-war estate developments, no properly designed separate surface water sewers exist - the channels, dykes and culverts which form the surface water systems in the rural parishes were originally the old "combined drains" of the pre-main drainage era, which continue to be vested in the Local Authority as a surface water system, and which proved to be inadequate to deal with the rainfall intensity experienced on occasions during 1968.

Minor improvements have been effected, particularly in Glinton village, and plans are in hand for similar work in Marholm. The worst problem exists in the villages of Castor and Ailsworth and is principally a problem of land drainage. No internal drainage board exists to deal with the problem in these two parishes, and in these circumstances powers available and as provided for in the Land Drainage Act 1961 are the subject of current negotiations between this Authority and the County Council.

UNFIT PROPERTY (Housing Acts).

Unfit dwellings demolished without formal action	2
No. of dwellings formally represented as unfit	7
No. of Demolition Orders made	4
No. of Closing Orders made	3
Estimated number of unfit dwellings still to be dealt with	68

COUNCIL HOUSING.

(a) Building.

No new Council dwellings were completed.

There were 10 dwellings under construction at the end of the year.

The total number of Council dwellings is 828 including 22 flatlets.

(b) Improvements

Some 136 properties were scheduled for improvement last year, but the preparation of the necessary block scheme has again been deferred pending the appointment of an additional member of the Surveyor's staff, who will be required to deal with this proposed scheme.

(c) Maintenance.

2521 repairs were carried out during the year, and 2405 inspections were made. 202 properties were externally painted by contract.

(d) Tenancy Changes.

Tenancy Changes have resulted in re-lettings as follows:-

Ailsworth	2
Castor	2
Eye	19
Glinton	10
Helpston	5
Maxey	1
Newborough	3
Peakirk	1

PRIVATE HOUSING

129 dwellings were completed during the year (a decrease of 67 on 1967 figures) and were distributed in the parishes as shown:-

Ailsworth	2
Castor	3
Deeping Gate	6
Eye	55
Glinton	27
Helpston	4
Maxey	7
Newborough	5
Northborough	11
Peakirk	7
Sutton	2

69 properties were in course of erection at the end of the year, distributed in parishes as shown:-

Borough Fen	1
Castor	4
Eye	24
Glinton	1
Helpston	11
Marholm	1
Maxey	1
Newborough	8
Northborough	13
Peakirk	3
Sutton	2

BUILDING REGULATIONS 1965.

328 plans were submitted for consideration under the Building Regulations 1965 and/or the Town and Country Planning Acts, 22 more than in the previous year.

925 inspections were made.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

It has not yet proved possible to obtain an Additional Public Health Inspector, following the authority given last year to increase the establishment. Continuing efforts are being made to fill the appointment, and the situation reflects a possible shortage of qualified pu lic health staff.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Animal Boarding Establishments	3
Building Inspection	951
Caravans	18
Civic Amenities Act	11
Committee's etc.	63
Council Houses	2563
Dangerous Buildings	6
Drainage & Sewerage	119
Factories and Workshops	19
Foodshops	16
Gypsies	4
Housing Acts	26
Improvement Grants	39
Infectious Diseases	7
Miscellaneous	6
Mobile Vans	7
Nuisances	84
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	32
Open Spaces	42
Petroleum Acts	17
Planning	71
Refuse Collection	41
Rodent Control	70
Road Safety	16
Street Lighting	11
Street Naming and Numbering	21
Water Supply	75

CONCLUSION

In conclusion I wish to convey my thanks for the co-operation I have received from the Members of the Council, and for the willing help received from the staff and workmen, without which the proper execution of the above work would not have been possible.

I am,

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

APPENDIX I

FACTORY ACT 1961

	PREMISES.	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I)	Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	4	-	-
(II)	Factories not included in (I) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	23	15	-	-
(III)	Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	30	19	-	-

PARTICULARS.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred: To H.M. Inspector	Referred: By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX I (Continued)

Nature of Work.	Section 133				Section 134	
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(I)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel) Making etc.,	2	-	-	-	-	-
)Cleaning)and)Washing						
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables & chains						
Iron & Steel anchors & grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						

APPENDIX I (Continued)

Nature of Work	Section 133				Section 134	
	No. of out-workers in August list required by section 133(I)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cossaques, Christmas stockings etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTALS	4	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX II

ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Year ended 31st December, 1968

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in District	3398	164
2a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	49	21
2b. Number infested by:-		
(i) Rats	43	21
(ii) Mice	8	3
3a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	161	11
3b. Number infested by:-		
(i) Rats	6	2
(ii) Mice	4	1

APPENDIX III

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Registration and General Inspections.

Class of Premises.	No. of premises registered during year.	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of Premises receiving an inspection during year.
Offices	1	13	10
Retail Shops	-	19	17
Warehouses etc.	-	1	1
Catering Establishments	-	2	2
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2	2
TOTALS	1	37	32

APPENDIX IV

TABLE OF MONTHLY RAINFALL

1956 - 1968 in inches.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
January	2.99	.93	2.31	2.78	3.07	2.59	1.45
February	.48	2.50	2.67	.14	1.78	1.56	.45
March	.55	1.79	1.30	1.73	1.63	.25	.89
April	.98	.17	.77	1.19	.26	2.01	2.38
May	.78	1.28	3.30	.66	.78	.45	1.78
June	2.52	2.03	4.82	1.28	2.45	.61	.12
July	2.46	3.07	2.71	2.05	2.17	1.57	1.46
August	4.91	2.38	2.25	1.42	1.82	1.71	2.62
September	1.66	3.97	3.18	.02	2.48	2.23	2.71
October	.92	1.31	1.32	1.20	4.47	2.16	.88
November	.72	1.46	1.44	1.43	3.34	1.90	1.74
December	1.85	2.05	2.23	3.54	3.21	2.83	1.13
Totals	20.82	22.94	28.30	17.44	27.46	19.87	17.61

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
January	.86	.61	1.89	1.26	.74	1.59
February	.33	.91	.77	2.85	1.95	.88
March	3.08	2.93	2.31	.43	.88	1.81
April	2.15	2.13	1.81	2.92	3.12	2.54
May	1.95	1.32	1.61	1.82	3.41	2.03
June	2.63	3.96	1.53	3.38	1.34	3.13
July	2.05	1.12	2.90	2.81	1.08	5.86
August	3.21	1.14	1.86	4.45	1.47	3.89
September	1.44	1.37	4.50	1.71	1.42	4.00
October	.64	.70	.28	2.16	3.37	2.06
November	2.95	1.26	2.30	2.17	2.15	1.86
December	.41	1.13	4.02	2.90	1.29	1.50
Totals.	21.70	18.58	25.78	28.86	22.22	31.15